

Inventory of Early Reading Skills

Letter and Word Identification

Adapted from *The Early Detection of Reading Difficulties* by Marie M. Clay

This is an inventory of skills, not a normed or standardized instrument. It should be used to gather information about a student's letter and word identification skills.

Letter Identification:

- ✓ Using the attached sheet of large print alphabet letters. Have the student read across the lines so that the letters appear in random order.
- ✓ Use an identical sheet to record responses.
- ✓ Introduce the task by asking, "What do you call these? Can you find some that you know?" Point to each letter and ask, "What is this one?" Give encouragement if the student does not respond.
- ✓ Accept as correct an alphabet letter named, a sound produced for the letter or a response that indicates a word that begins with the same sound.
- ✓ Record any incorrect responses and your observations.

Word Identification

- ✓ You may use the attached sheet of words for this inventory. Administer only one list. It is important in the early assessment of skills that the assessment is linked closely to instruction. The most frequently occurring words in the materials used for instruction should be the ones used for the word identification inventory. If the words on these lists do not match those introduced in the student's instruction, compile your own appropriate list.
- ✓ Use an identical sheet for recording student's responses.

Student _____ Grade _____ Birth Date _____
General Education Teacher _____ Date _____
Assessor _____

Letter Identification List

A	F	K	P	W	Z
B	H	O	J	U	
C	Y	L	Q	M	
D	N	S	X	I	
E	G	R	V	T	
a	f	k	p	w	z
b	h	o	j	u	a
c	y	e	q	m	
d	n	s	x	i	
e	g	r	v	t	g

Student _____ Grade _____ Birth Date _____

General Education Teacher _____ Date _____

Assessor _____

Word Identification List

LIST A

LIST B

LIST C

Practice Word

Practice Word

Practice Word

the

said

is

I

and

Father

Mother

to

come

are

will

for

here

look

a

me

he

you

shouted

up

at

am

like

school

with

in

went

car

where

get

children

Mr

we

help

going

they

not

big

ready

too

go

this

meet

let

boys

away

on

please